

- (a) providing a transport pallet and a winding pallet, the winding pallet removably positioned upon the transport pallet and a stator part mounted on the winding pallet;
- (b) conveying the transport pallet with winding pallet thereon to a winding station;
- (c) separating the transport pallet from the winding pallet;
- (d) moving the winding pallet into a winding position;
- (e) performing a winding operation at the winding position;
- (f) after step (e), placing the winding pallet back onto the transport pallet.

46. The method of claim 45 wherein step (c) involves raising the transport pallet with winding pallet thereon above a conveyor and holding the winding pallet in place as the transport pallet is lowered.

47. The method of claim 45 wherein step (c) involves lifting the winding pallet off the transport pallet while the transport pallet remains on a conveyor.

48. The method of claim 45 wherein step (c) takes place at a first location along a conveyor line and step (f) takes place at a second location along the conveyor line, the second location is downstream of the first location.

49. The method of claim 45 wherein a winding machine is alongside a conveyor and step (d) includes pivoting the winding pallet toward the winding machine.

50. The method of claim 49 wherein step (d) includes moving the winding pallet into a pivot arm.

51. The method of claim 45 wherein step 9 (f) takes place above a conveyor.

52. The method of claim 45 wherein after step (c) and prior to step (e) a position of the stator part with respect to the winding pallet is adjusted to move the stator part to a winding reference position.

53. The method of claim 52 wherein after step (e) a position of the stator part with respect to the winding pallet is adjusted to a second reference position different than the winding reference position.

54. The method of claim 45 wherein the winding operation places a number of stator coil wire ends on retaining studs of the winding pallet and the method further involves contacting the stator coil wire ends so as to move the wires inward on the winding pallet.

55. The method of claim 54 wherein the contacting step occurs after step (e) and before step (f).

56. A stator winding method comprising:

(a) providing a transport pallet and a winding pallet, the winding pallet removably positioned upon the transport pallet and a stator part mounted on the winding pallet;

(b) separating the transport pallet from the winding pallet;

(d) moving the separated winding pallet into a winding position;

(d) performing a winding operation at the winding position;

(e) after step (d), placing the separated winding pallet back onto the transport pallet.

57. The method of claim 56 wherein step (d) involves first moving the separated winding pallet to a position alongside the winding position and then moving the separated winding pallet laterally into the winding position.

58. The method of 57 wherein the separated winding pallet is pivoted into the position alongside the winding position.

59. The method of claim 57 wherein a position of the stator part with respect to the winding pallet is adjusted at the position alongside the winding position to move the stator part to a winding reference position.

60. The method of claim 56 wherein step (b) involves raising the transport pallet with winding pallet thereon above a conveyor and holding the winding pallet in place as the transport pallet is lowered.

61. The method of claim 56 wherein step (b) involves lifting the winding pallet off the transport pallet while the transport pallet remains on a conveyor.

62. The method of claim 56 wherein step (b) takes place at a first location along a conveyor line and step (e) takes place at a second location along the conveyor line, the second location is downstream of the first location.--

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